



Developmental Disabilities Area Board 10

Protecting and advocating for persons with developmental disabilities throughout Los Angeles County.

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NEXT UP:
TRANSITION TO
ADULTHOOD
Saturday, April 21
Whittier

[Parent's Place 20th Annual Information Fair & Festival Sunday, April 29 West Covina](#)

Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County Reaching Out to Other Self-Advocacy Groups

For over 20 years Area Board 10 has assisted the Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County (SABLAC), a group that focuses on supporting people with developmental disabilities on how to exercise their rights, influence legislation and interact with local leaders to help them understand the viewpoints of people with developmental disabilities.

SABLAC is made up of people from all around Los Angeles County who are members of other self-advocacy groups. Information and resources are shared at SABLAC meetings and then taken back to each person's local group. Officers are elected every three years from among the membership. Currently, Elizabeth Lyons is the President of SABLAC.

In a new development, SABLAC and Area Board 10 are partnering with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities by sending one SABLAC member to the newly formed Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN). Representatives from all over California will meet four times a year to receive intensive training in leadership, how to be an effective board member, and other skills that give people with disabilities an advantage in advocating for themselves and others. SSAN also has a vision to build the self-advocacy movement within communities that haven't done as much in the self-advocacy movement. SABLAC will participate in this vision by

[Tools for Transformation Conference Advocates Summit and Reception Friday, April 13 Los Angeles](#)

[Free Health Screening & Resource Fair Friday, April 13 Pomona](#)

[Free Vision Screening Friday, April 13 Pomona](#)

[Autism Society: The Next Steps to Advocate for Funding and Innovation Thursday, May 3 Los Angeles](#)

Links

[Area Board 10](#)

[California Disability Community Action Network](#)

[Department of Developmental Services](#)

[Disability Rights California](#)

[Health and Human Services Network of California](#)

[Leginfo \(Info about new laws](#)

developing plans to reach out to young adults under the leadership of its SSAN representative, Kecia Weller.

SABLAC is also looking at expanding its reach through social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. The intent is to link together all of the self-advocacy groups throughout Los Angeles County. Through these efforts SABLAC intends to strengthen the self-advocacy movement by building strong leaders and cooperation between groups. This will give self-advocates more leverage in influencing the direction of services, state and local budgets and educating the public about disabilities.

We would like your help in achieving these goals. If you are a part of or know of a self-advocacy group in Los Angeles County, please send us information about the group to Julie Eby-McKenzie, Area Board 10 staff member and the SABLAC facilitator.

You are also most welcome to attend a SABLAC meeting. Right now we are meeting on the first Saturday of every month from 1:30 – 4:30. Our current meeting location is at Easter Seals in Glendale. E-mail or call Julie at Area Board 10 for more information.

Assembly Bill 2338 Promotes Employment First Policy

On **April 10, 2012** Assembly Bill 2338 will come before the Assembly Human Services Committee. AB 2338 will require regional centers to inform consumers, families and others about the Employment First Policy which states: "It is the policy of the state that integrated competitive employment is the priority outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities."

If the bill is passed regional centers will have to inform consumers and families about options for "integrated competitive employment" which means real jobs in the community. The regional centers will also be required to inform consumers and families about self-employment and microenterprises, and postsecondary education resources that could help them learn the skills needed to

[and rules in California\)](#)

[Self-Advocates
Becoming
Empowered \(SABE\)](#)

[State Council on
Developmental
Disabilities](#)

[Regional Center
Transparency
Information](#)

[National Disability
Rights Network](#)

Easter Activities

[Free Egg Hunt!](#)

[Kids Easter
Spectacular!](#)

[Meet the Easter
Bunny!](#)

[Easter at the Zoo!](#)

[Easter at the
Arboretum!](#)

[Egg Hunt at
Kidspace!](#)

Comments

If there is anything
you would like to tell
us about this
Newsletter please
email us at:
ab10@scdd.ca.gov

Want to share our

succeed.

AB 2338 does not force anyone to work if they don't want to and doesn't take any services and supports away. It says that work is just as important to people with disabilities as it is to everyone else. It will make sure that people who want to work get the information they need.

There is still time to share your thoughts on AB 2338 with the Legislature before the Human Services Committee meets on **April 10, 2012**. [Click Here](#) for more details and contact information for the committee members.

Governor Delivers Plan to Streamline State Government

On March 30 Governor Brown released his new reorganization plan for State government. It is hoped that the new plan will make State government work better by getting rid of unnecessary boards, commissions and departments. The plan would also merge departments that have very similar responsibilities. A special commission has 30 days to look the plan over and make recommendations before the Legislature votes on it. [Click Here](#) to read the Governor's letter and a summary of the plan.

Most Federal Funds go to Sheltered Workshops

A new report put out by the National Disability Rights Network found that even though most federal policies support people with disabilities right to work in the community most government funds go to sheltered workshops instead.

About 400,000 people with disabilities are employed in sheltered workshops across the country. These workshops are not community-based and often pay workers less than the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.

Advocates have worked for years to get the federal

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Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Rehabilitation Services Administration to enact policies that promote real jobs in the community. But the report found that the new policies are too complex and confusing and this has resulted in more money going to Sheltered Workshops than to community-based efforts. [Click here](#) to read the report.